


pe·ri·od·ic  **Pronunciation Key** (pîr'ē-ōd'īk)
adj.

ADVERTISE WITH
US

1. Having or marked by repeated cycles.
2. Happening or appearing at regular intervals.
3. Recurring or reappearing from time to time; intermittent.
4. Characterized by periodic sentences.

pe·ri·od·i·cal·ly *adv.*

Synonyms: *periodic, sporadic, intermittent, occasional, fitful*

These adjectives all mean recurring or reappearing now and then. Something *periodic* occurs at regular or at least generally predictable intervals: *periodic feelings of anxiety*. *Sporadic* implies scattered, irregular, unpredictable, or isolated instances: *sporadic bombing raids*. *Intermittent* describes something that stops and starts at intervals: *intermittent rain showers*. What is *occasional* happens at random and irregularly: *occasional outbursts of temper*. Something *fitful* occurs in spells and often abruptly: *fitful bursts of energy*.

Usage Note: In technical use, *periodic* means "at regular or predictable intervals," as in the *Periodic Table of the Elements*. Often, however, *periodic* is used to mean "occasional, intermittent." This usage can be confusing for readers who are accustomed to the narrower sense of the word. Thus the writer who says *Parker's losses at the track were not covered by his periodic wins* invites the (most likely unintended) inference that Parker has a system that enables him to win at regular intervals. The ambiguity can be avoided here by using *occasional* instead.

Source: *The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition*

Copyright © 2000 by Houghton Mifflin Company.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved.

[Buy it]

| L Number | Hits | Search Text | DB | Time stamp |
|---------------------|-------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 504 | random near3 (heartbeat or alive or status) | USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB | 2003/09/23 14:21 |
| 2 | 20 | (random near3 (heartbeat or alive or status)) and ((duel twin multiple two) adj (processor CPU)) | USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB | 2003/09/23 14:21 |
| - | 163 | (714/12).CCLS. | USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB | 2003/09/16 14:41 |
| - | 44 | (714/21).CCLS. | USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB | 2003/09/16 14:42 |
| - | 579 | ((714/11).CCLS.) ((714/12).CCLS.) ((714/21).CCLS.) | USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB | 2003/09/16 14:42 |
| - | 24 | ((714/11).CCLS.) ((714/12).CCLS.) ((714/21).CCLS.) and heartbeat | USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB | 2003/09/16 14:43 |
| - | 188 | ((714/11).CCLS.) ((714/12).CCLS.) ((714/21).CCLS.) and ((duel twin multiple two) adj (processor CPU)) | USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB | 2003/09/23 14:21 |
| - | 405 | (714/11).CCLS. | USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB | 2003/09/16 14:51 |